# Newsletter of the Titusville Amateur Radio Club

**JANUARY 2004**

## LETTERS, WE GET LETTERS

Dear Sherry,

I am writing to you for help with my problem.

My wife has custody of our seven children. They were awarded to her when she divorced me for desertion. My mother has been confined to a mental institution since I was three years old. I have two brothers, one who is a Ham Radio Operator and the other is awaiting execution following a sordid murder trial and conviction. My two sisters are prostitutes and my father sells narcotics to support his alcohol habit.

Recently, I met a girl who has been released from prison where she served time for smothering her illegitimate child. I love this girl very much and want to marry her.

My question is this: Should I tell her about my brother who is a Ham Radio Operator?

Signed, Worried.

If you want to find out what Sherry has to say in response to Worried's plea for help. You must attend the first TARC Meeting of the year, 1900 Tuesday January 27, 2004 at the 1900 JAYCEES Building on Singleton Ave in Titusville.

## TARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE FIRST MEETING OF YEAR

By Bob Keim W4TAT

NEW IDEAS FOR 2004 FROM THE TARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

The Titusville ARC's Board of Directors at its Jan. 21, 2004 meeting discussed many new ways to help the club grow in 2004. The membership needs to grow and expand it's participation in club activities. One of the most compelling issues raised was the idea that there may be a need for committees to be formed and those committees would be involved with specific activities relating to TARC's participation and growth in the community. This would be a wonderful way to expand the club membership while helping TARC to become more active and efficient in many areas. The basic idea will be presented to the membership at the upcoming Monthly meeting this coming Tuesday, Jan. 27th.

A quick breakdown of suggested committees and the related responsibilities might include the following:

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:

A committee formed with the main goal being TARC's participation in Emergency Communications capacities, this committee would be responsible for interaction with BEARS, and would represent TARC's directions and goals in relation to BEARS and Emergency Communications activities. Also a planned structure of TARC's participation in Emergency communications activities with a focus on "our own back yard" as well as participation in BEARS might be useful. TARC needs a direction and voice in BEARS and this might be a wonderful way to help achieve that goal.

The committee might plan EC type training, help others get involved in Emergency Communications and will keep the club and its members informed of all activities, training opportunities and events related to Emergency Communications. A planned structure for an Emergency coordinator, an EC Radio officer and designated Net Control Stations, with redundant backups for each. Planned and practiced procedures and operations might make TARC's participation in emergency communications stronger, more professional and more consistent with current EC training and may keep TARC a valued asset in relation to served agency needs in the future.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE:

This committee would be responsible for planning, participation and execution of all community assistance events such as the Titusville Christmas parade, Boat parade, Indian River raft race and any other community events that amateur radio can assist or play a part in. Again a need for organized participation in community events creates a better image for TARC and may help the club expand membership and participation.

A Sub committee of this group might be a team willing to enter a Christmas float in the parade or a raft in the Indian River raft race as well as communications planning for the events.

FIELD DAY COMMITTEE:

This committee would be responsible for co-ordination, planning and execution of all Field day related events. The co-ordination and planning of field day activities may lead to increased participation and an overall better understanding of Field day rules and operating procedures making the event more enjoyable for all participants.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

This committee would be responsible for promoting and polishing the image of TARC and Amateur Radio in the eyes of the public and served agencies. The need for an organized group to keep positive interest stories relating to TARC and Amateur Radio in the news and in the community perspective is imperative to growing our standing in the community.

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE:

Every organization has a basic need for funds to promote training, acquire equipment or keep the club growing and represented in the community. A fund raising committee can work all year on keeping TARC in the black and allowing us the resources to acquire needed equipment that will keep the club strong and growing in the future.

These are a few ideas for committees that were discussed at the Board Meeting and we hope to discuss these options with the club membership at the upcoming meeting. We will pass around printed sheets for those that wish to sign-up for participation in a committee or for those that have ideas or comments. Members are encouraged to participate in as many activities as they feel comfortable with. We plan on discussing this issue at length on Jan. 27th at the Monthly club meeting so please plan on attending and help get the ball rolling. We need to consider TARC's growth in the coming years and this may be a great way to spurn that growth. Participation is going to be the key to creating a successful committee program so please consider joining in any capacity you may be capable of. We have a wonderful pool of talents, ideas and abilities in TARC and I believe pooling those resources and ideas will make the club grow and prosper in the coming years! Any questions or comments would be welcomed via email to: w4tat@earthlink.net or via landline at 321-383-1509. I am Looking forward to a great 2004 for all the members of the Titusville Amateur Radio club. Let's work together and make this program a success!

73 Bob W4TAT

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Bud Hughes W4CWG

A goodly number of our club members including yours truly are either retired or approaching that stage of life. Each of us, in our own way seem to enjoy permitting our minds to wandering back to those good old days of yesteryear. In our journey back to our childhood we have the pleasure of reliving so many wonderful events. Being born and raised in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in rural Alabama I think I qualify as a country boy. I was one of twelve children with a mama and daddy that some day I hope I get to hug again and offer a belated thank you for being my Mom and Dad.

Some of my childhood memories are the following: When asked how one is feeling the mountaineer might reply "tolerably well thank you". I know the meanings of sleeping at the foot of the bed, hand-me-downs, wood box, stove wood, wood stove, warming closet, fly paper, kerosene lamps, 3 cent postage stamp (1 cent for post card), fireplace, kindling, pine knots, take out the ashes, the path behind the house that led to the privy, Sears Roebuck catalog, roll your own cigarettes, ice boxes, half soled shoes, building a fire underneath the wash-pot, scrub boards, 1st and 2nd rinse in the 3 washtubs, and flour-sack/feed-sack shirts for the boys and dresses for the girls, quilting parties, prayer in school, leaving your bike outside not having to lock your doors, the circus coming to town, jack stones, mumblety-peg, hop-scotch, may I, gas rationing, paddlings administered at school only to be duplicated up arrival back home, sawmill gravy, cracker jacks, candy kisses, the Lone Ranger, Amos and Andy, the Shadow, all day singings and diner on the ground, war-time blackouts, savings bonds – 10 cent savings stamps, a poultice for your aches and pain, grown-ups sitting up with the ill, digging the graves for our loved ones final resting place.

Oh if I could only return to those days of yore I am sure I would not be concerned about such trivial things as TV repairs, air conditioner/washer/dryer failure, receiving scam email, unwanted telephone calls, sewer line clogs, spending time looking for the TV channel selector, trying to convince the better half that watching foot ball on TV is not a total waste of time, going to the gym for exercise, last but not least since I have been told that my boot size and IQ are about the same, I would not be concerned as to the square root of the size of either.

The Good Lord having blessed me with such a wonderful family and good friends, should I be granted the wish and could to go back to those loving days, I pray that the Dear Lord will issue me a round trip ticket.

Hey gang club meeting is coming up Tuesday, the 27th.

Hope to see you there, bring a friend

73s Bud – K4CWG

## BEARS REPORT

by Stephanie Phillips K4MOV

If you weren't there, you missed a good meeting. We had a full house, item packed agenda, and with a lot cooperation and coordination going on, we managed to make great progress on several Emergency Communications related subjects.

At 1830, Dennis Decker, of the National Weather Service called a meeting for the Brevard County Sky Warn representatives: Terry Reinert, KG4JSC, South; Larry Cooke, K4OHE, Central; and Bob Jones, N6USP, North. Many TARC members were present and they actively participated in the discussion. BEARS, in cooperation with the NWS and Sky Warn, hopes to facilitate a Sky Warn Forum at the upcoming Orlando HamCation. Details to be provided as they are developed. Also Dennis has offered a Sky Warn class at the County EOC in Rockledge on 02/17/04, at 1900 hours, local. If you are interested in the class or would like a refresher, please let Ed, KG4KVO, or me know. There is already a Sky Warn class planned for the 5th of Feb, at the Palm Bay EOC: contact WB2CKM, Steve Hathaway for more details.

At about 1900, we started our regular BEARS meeting with Nancy Smith of the Brevard County Office of Emergency Management reminding us that although we are in the Fire Season, the Sever Weather Season is just about here. Also there will be a FEPA conference in Orlando, check out www.FEPA.org ; Brevard Citizens Academy is getting another class started: one night a week, 9 – 10 weeks, check with Marea Assante of the Brevard County Manager's office for details; Radiological Exercise scheduled for 02/18/04, (heads up for a training net!); 03/20/04, Kiwanis Public Safety Expo will be very big and informative, and other agencies are invited; Hurricane Drill, ZANE, coming up the 1st week of May; and of course the Governor's Hurricane Conference is May 24 –28, 2004.
Ernie Baldini, K4RBD, who is the current President of the Launch Information Service and Amateur Television Systems, (LISATS, 146.94) and who is a very active Communications Assistance Team member (and a bunch of other "*hats*" too numerous to mention here,) has volunteered not only his services but also his van to help out during drills/exercises, and emergencies, so BEARS decided that his mobile station, (his van) will be designated K4EOC-Comm III (Three.) So If you hear K4EOC Comm Three, check-into the nets, you'll know it's not a bootlegger, but Ernie in his van.

Dan Fisher, KG4SDJ, is heading up an emergency communications drill will the Boy Scouts, Troop 734 and others, Jan 30 & 31 and Feb 1st, in the South Area. I'm taking a BEARS Comm Vehicle to function as a Command Post on Feb 1st, and I'll also be handing out Amateur Radio recruitment material. (Most of you know that I'm also an ARRL Public Information Officer, and I look forward to every opportunity to recruit for the hobby.) Also Dan's son, Alex, KG4WMM, has started a youth net on 146.85, at 1945, local, on Thursday evenings. Although that may be a stretch for some of us up here in the North Brevard area, all children are welcome to check-in. Alex hopes to help get other children active with the hobby. So lets give Alex our support and let him know how much we appreciate his enthusiasm for the hobby.

Bill Young, KA4VYH, announced that he has been approached by a Boy Scout Troop to help support their Jamboree On The Air event in October. So BEARS committed resources, both personnel and equipment to help support these kids in the Fall. We'll share more details about JOTA 2004, as they develop. If you know of a Boy Scout Troop that needs help with their Communications Badges, please let Ed or me know.

Bob, N3DMI, Ray, N4LEM, Ed, KG4KVO, & I will be conducting the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course, starting at Level One, at the County EOC. Dates & Time still to be determined. Evidently several local ARES members have not been able to get into the On-line Course offered by the ARRL. We are accepting donations, or the loan of, educational material, and of course, any help you'd like to share. Let Ed or me know if you are interested in this educational opportunity, as either an instructor or as a student. Ozzie, N4SCY, has volunteered to be the BEARS representative at the Brevard County VOAD. That's Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters and Reverend Harris, KØTAX, is the current chairman. They will have their big Public Safety and Disaster Awareness Conference on Field Day this year, at the Melbourne Square Mall. I know most of you will be at our Field Day site, but if you find yourself in Melbourne, make sure to give a big hand to both KØTAX and N4SCY.

The BEARS' Communication Assistance Teams (CATs) are putting together another trip to Tallahassee EOC. The CATs meet every Monday morning at W4BAL's QTH and if you are interested in helping out, just show up. Talk-in Frqeuncy is 147.135. If you are interested in CATs' activities and or this trip, please give Roy Hill, W6QCM, a call: 453-4865.

A super big thanks from BEARS and especially the CATs, to Warren, W4CEL, and TARC, for helping put Comm II back on the road.

And John, KE4ZPA, thanks again for doing such a wonderful plumbing job when installing that sink that Hank, AA4HP donated. Because of the added help from TARC members, both vehicles are again ready for service to our communities. Your contributions are really appreciated. (I've already requested a BEARS Comm Vehicle for Field Day, just in case John, KE4ZPA, wants

to again bask in an air-conditioned environment during all those pile-ups!)

BEARS is sponsoring a fund raising raffle for an ICOM IC-706. Tickets will be $5 each, or 5 tickets for $20, Ed, Bob & I have the tickets. The winning ticket will be drawn at the March 9th, meeting. Proceeds will go towards maintaining the Comm Vehicles and other BEARS' equipment, and of course the consortium's liability insurance.

BEARS will have two tables at the upcoming Orlando HamFest. We will gladly sell you equipment for you, for a 20 percent commission. You can deliver or we can pick it up before the Hamfest, you set the price, and we do all the work. Please let me, or Roy Hill know if you're interested in this service. Also let us know if you'd just like to donate some old gear. (No boat anchors, please!) We are a 501,C, 3, charitable corporation, so your donations are tax deductible.

BEARS is hosting an EC Mutual Aid & Interoperability Conference with neighboring county ECs, March 13th, at the Brevard County EOC;10-12 and 1-3. Already 17 ECs and AECs from adjacent counties have expressed a desire to participate.

BEARS meet on the second Tuesday of the month, 1900, at the County EOC, Rockledge, Talk-in Freq: 147.135. Brevard County ARES/RACES (BEARS) nets on Wednesdays, at 9am and again at 7pm local, on 147.135. Try checking-in using your emergency communications equipment. And don't forget to use the Standard Phonetic Alphabet when giving your call sign, and please give your location.

I hope you all had a wonderful Holiday Season and I look forward to seeing you all at some of the upcoming training, exercises, drills, public service and special events, Hamfests, and of course I hope to hear you all checking-into the nets. I just want to thank all you ARES members and Sky Warn enthusiasts for all your contributions to Public Safety and Homeland Security. We really are fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteer emergency communicators in Brevard County. It certainly makes serving as president of BEARS an interesting and enjoyable experience. Thank you.

Stephanie Phillips, K4MVO
President, BEARS Inc. 264-2492

## DECEMBER MINUTES

by Becky Lee KF4HTB

The Christmas Party was held on December 7 at the Knights of Columbus. There was a good turnout, and everyone had a good time. Clara KE4YQL was in charge of the program and as always presented and entertaining evening.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

by Becky Lee KF4HTB

| | |
|---|---|
| Begin Balance | $1807.27 |
| Deposits | 6130.79 |
| Total Income | $ 7938.06 |
| Expenditures | 5836.97 |
| Bal 12/31/03 | $ 2101.09 |

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

| | |
|---|---|
| Regular | 127 |
| Family | 45 |
| Honorary | 8 |
| Other | 3 |
| **TOTAL MEMBERSHIP** | 183 |

## NEW MEMBERS

| | |
|---|---|
| KC2DPP | Allan Hobron |
| KC4TCH | Kim Borgstrom |
| K4WSJ | Robert Husband |

## RENEWALS

| | |
|---|---|
| KD4HMW | Ken Denman |
| KF4KUN | Sam Denman |
| KG8AV | Virgil Birchfield |
| | Phoebe Birchfield |
| WY1K | Michael Whelpley |
| KF4FNZ | Rich Watson |
| W4TAT | Bob Keim |
| W4JKF | Jackie Keim |
| W4RUN | Bill Canfield |
| KF4QML | Kevin Zimmerman |
| KF4VRQ | Marvin Thorpe |
| KK4SH | Vince Gonzalez |
| KE4MXC | Jean Gonzalez |
| KV4DC | Roe Weaver |
| W4RNK | Bob Keim (Sr) |

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1/03 | KE4AGO | Bill Realy |
| 1/07 | KC2ENO | Art Smith |
| 1/08 | N4KHU | Dave Roberts |
| 1/08 | WW4G | Brian Van Alstine |
| 1/09 | KF4ECM | Jim Laythrop |
| 1/12 | KE4NYM | Matt Keller |
| 1/14 | KD4LLO | David Webb |
| 1/17 | KO4NQ | Frenchy Poulin |
| 1/18 | W4YMD | Don Nelson |
| 1/20 | KE4TQZ | Sandy Greenwald |
| 1/21 | KT4SY | Eddie Gass |
| 1/21 | KE4MXF | Kay Jordan |
| 1/23 | KC4VIN | Carole Ramos |
| 1/23 | NTØY | Ken Faria |
| 1/23 | KD4GPF | Joe Myers |
| 1/26 | K4SJC | Les Griner |
| 1/26 | KG8AV | Virgil Birchfield |
| 1/26 | KF4VRR | Don Patton |

## CLUB OFFICERS

**President:**
Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779

**Vice-President:**
Bob Keim W4TAT 383-1509

**Secretary/Treasurer:**
Becky Lee KF4HTB 267-9375

## ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Pike Abell W4EPU 269-4208
Bob Farrington W4YBI 633-5664
Hank Phillips AA4HP 264-2492
John Renninger KE4ZPA 267-9431

## CLUB INFORMATION

**Meetings:** Monthly on the 4th Tuesday at 1900 at the Jaycee Building, N. 405 Singleton Ave.

**Next Meeting Date: 02/24/2004**

**Newsletter Editor**: N3DMI
Bob Green. N3DMI@IJ.NET
**Deadline for next newsletter is 02/16/2004**

## NETS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Red Eye | Sun 6:00am | 7.228 mHz |
| Traders | Mon 10:00am | 146.91 mHz |
| Friendship | Tues 6:30pm | 146.91 mHz |
| Mosquito | Wed 7:00pm | 28.333 mHz |
| VIP | Thur 10:00am | 146.91 mHz |
| BEARS | Wed 9:00am | 147.135 mHz |
| BEARS | Wed 7:00am | 147.135 mHz |
| IRARC | Wed 7:15pm | 145.37 mHz |

## REPEATER CUSTODIAN BOARD

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Les Griner | K4SJC | (146.91) | 267-1565 |
| Warren Murray | W4CEL | (146.97) | 638-5476 |
| Mike Hensley | W4LOV | (444.15) | 639-1553 |
| Ozzie Osband | N4CSY | (145.09) | 794-0215 |
| | Packet Rose Node | | |
| Ken Denman | KD4HNW | (146.775) | 269-5711 |

## HAMFESTS

| | |
|---|---|
| 1/31/04 | Arcadia, FL |
| 2/7-8/04 | Miami, FL |
| 2/10-15/04 | Christmas, FL |
| 2/13-15/04 | Orlando, FL |
| 2/21/04 | Sebring, FL |
| 3/6/04 | Pt. Charlotte, FL |
| 3/20/04 | Ft. Walton Bch, FL |
| 3/20/04 | Stuart, FL |
| 3/27/04 | New Pt. Richey, FL |
| 3/27/04 | Plantation, FL |

Titusville Amateur Radio Club

T. A. R. C

Titusville, Florida

Post Office Box 73
Titusville, FL 32781-0073

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

ARE YOU READY FOR THE ORLANDO HAMFEST?
DO YOU HAVE YOUR TICKETS? IF NOT SEE SHEERY
HAMFEST UNIFORM OF THE DAY IS CLUB TEE-SHIRTS DON'T HAVE ONE, WHY SEE SHEERY AT THE MEETING

# NEXT MEETING TUESDAY JANUARY 27, 2004